

***TIPPECANOE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 3, 2009***

The Emergency Management Advisory Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Advisory Council members present were: Chairman Garry Smith, Carol Shelby, Commissioner David Byers, Mike Francis, Jimmy Kesterson, Dave Reagan and Nathan Miller. Also present were Director Mark Kirby and Secretary Jennifer Prange.

Carol Shelby moved to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2009, meeting, second by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

CHAIRMAN REPORT

Chairman Smith suggested the committee focus on the following topics for 2009:

- Sirens for new housing additions
- Siren locations
- Maintenance Costs
- Reverse 911

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Sustainability funding for equipment owned by TEMA has been discussed with state officials. Director Kirby has approached regional districts for assistance in cost or storage of equipment with no success.
- Budget for 2009 reflects a slight increase in the garage account for maintenance of the two non-commissioned cars received from the City of Lafayette.
- The new Travel Advisory Ordinance has been successful in the community. Advisory is intended to warn the public of anticipated inclement weather. Director Kirby is building a list of contacts for inclement weather notification to include schools and transportation departments. Morning notifications will begin at approximately 5:45 a.m. He added the ordinance covers the unincorporated/rural parts of the county.
- A district-wide exercise with Homeland Security will take place on February 27, 2009 starting at 8:00 a.m. The Emergency Operations Center will be opened and all communication equipment will be tested. The hands-on portion of the exercise will take place on Saturday, February 28, 2009 in Fountain County.
- Martin Webb is working closely with the Chamber of Commerce to make changes to the Christmas parade. With the large amount of logistics involved, he intends to fine-tune the process and include a larger portion of downtown.
- Eli Lilly intends to donate a fire truck for use by TEMA. Nathan Miller confirmed he will have final confirmation in the near future. Director Kirby is researching the cost of insurance and maintenance fees.
- Jenny Plante, Administrative Assistant is working with the county attorney to collect delinquent HAZMAT bills. \$25,000 has been collected to date in old debt and the money will be deposited in the HAZMAT Maintenance Fund.
- The Citizen Corp Program led by Tilara Treece and Jenny Plante is under re-organization. Further information will be available in the future.

- A new TEMA Volunteer Recruit Class will be held in the next few weeks. TEMA has 44 active volunteers to including HAZMAT.

HAZMAT

- Deputy Director Tim Batta reported one major incident involving a semi loaded with formaldehyde. The accident happened on Interstate 65 when a semi overturned in bad weather. With no immediate hazard to the community, the team waited to clean-up until the weather permitted.

COMMITTEES

- No reports.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Chairman Smith requested Dave Reagan create a siren map to include the incorporated towns.
- Commissioner Byers recommended pursuing the idea of additional fees for new development implemented by the Area Plan Commission. He also suggested neighborhood associations add a small fee to yearly dues.
- Jimmy Kesterson suggested townships fund sirens in their area or establish a cumulative fund for new development for the sirens and maintenance.
- Nathan Miller said TEMA has a responsibility to notify the community through various types of communication. He suggested the board establish a plan of notification and determine the costs which could then be added to local taxes.
- Director Kirby reported upcoming legislation may mandate emergency notification capabilities in communities. He suggested considering the legislation in any long-term plan.
- With the large use of cell phones, Director Kirby would like to end pager notifications which will save approximately \$3,000.
- Chairman Smith reported sirens have not been funded in incorporated areas in the past and he polled the board to determine if the policy should continue. The board was in favor of continuing with the plan.
- Members discussed how many more sirens would be needed to accurately cover the community. Director Kirby suggested 15 new sirens; he added the Granville Bridge area could use a new siren which would also cover the area along the river.

NEW BUSINESS

- Dave Reagan reported old 121-5 systems will only have monitoring capability by airplane; satellites are now only able to monitor 900 MHZ radios.
- With the loss of communication in Kentucky, local planes are assisting in Kentucky for emergency transmissions of radio frequency.
- Chairman Smith suggested drafting a letter to the Area Plan Commission (APC) in support of charging new builders for sirens in their area.

Carol Shelby made a motion to draft a letter to the APC to be signed by all members of this committee, second by Dave Reagan; motion carried.

Commissioner Byers reported the commissioners are continuing the search for storage of TEMA equipment.

Captain Francis moved to adjourn.